

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 3, 2008

CONTACT

Nevada Division of State Parks, Dave Morrow, (775) 684-2771

Nevada Division of Forestry, Mike Dondero, (775) 684-2500

Fire restrictions implemented at more of Nevada's state parks

Spring Mountain Ranch State Park near Las Vegas and Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park near Gabbs are affected

CARSON CITY--The Nevada Division of State Parks and Nevada Division of Forestry announced today that added fire restrictions are being implemented at Nevada's state parks because of the high potential for wildfires. The divisions instituted restrictions on Friday at four of Nevada's state parks.

Extreme temperatures and high fire danger prompted today's decision to add restrictions to two more of Nevada's 24 state parks, park administrators said.

More than 255 fires have already burned more than 12,400 acres in Nevada this year. Humans have caused 203 of the 255 fires.

In addition to fire restrictions that are in place for all of Nevada's state parks, visitors to the following parks are not allowed to have any open fires even in designated picnic and campground areas:

- **Spring Mountain Ranch State Park** near Las Vegas
- **Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park** near Gabbs
- **Lake Tahoe-Nevada State Park**, which includes Sand Harbor, the Marlette/Hobart backcountry and Spooner Lake
- The Carson River Ranches area of **Fort Churchill State Park** in Silver Springs
- **Beaver Dam State Park** near Caliente
- **Cathedral Gorge State Park** near Panaca

Fire restrictions prohibit:

- Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire or stove fire, except a fire in a portable stove using gas, jellied petroleum or pressurized liquid fuel
- Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle
- Welding or operating an acetylene torch with open flames, except by permit
- Using, or causing to be used, any explosive, except by permit
- Using fireworks or firing a tracer (fireworks of any kind are not allowed on public lands)

"These restrictions should be taken seriously. Violations can result in a fine of up to \$10,000 and a year in jail as well as the costs associated with damage, suppression costs and injuries," said Pete Anderson, Nevada state forester and fire warden.

Fire restrictions are in effect until further notice.

Spring Mountain Ranch State Park encompasses 600 acres and sits within the Red Rock Canyon national recreation lands, located 20 miles west of Las Vegas. This oasis was developed into a combination working ranch and luxurious retreat by a string of owners who have given the area a long and colorful history.

The **Nevada Division of State Parks** plans, develops and maintains a system of parks and recreation areas for the use and enjoyment of more than 2.3 million visitors a year. The division was established in 1963 by the Nevada Legislature to form a new state park agency within the **Department of Conservation and Natural Resources**. The division manages and maintains 24 parks in Nevada.

NEVADA DIVISION OF STATE PARKS
Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
901 S. Stewart St., Ste. 5005
Carson City, NV 89701-5248
(775) 684-2770
www.parks.nv.gov

The **Nevada Division of Forestry** is a division within the **Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources**. The Division coordinates and manages all forestry, nursery, endangered plant species and watershed resource activities on certain public and private lands. The Division provides protection of life, property and natural resources through fire suppression, prevention programs and provides other emergency services as required.

NEVADA DIVISION OF FORESTRY
Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
2478 Fairview Drive
Carson City, Nevada 89701
Phone (775) 684-2500, **Fax** (775) 687-4244
www.forestry.nv.gov

BOB CONRAD
Communications Officer
(775) 684-2712
bconrad@dcnr.nv.gov
Cell: (775) 224-2605
Fax: (775) 684-2715

Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
901 S. Stewart Street, Suite 5001
Carson City, Nevada 89701

DCNR News: <http://dcnrnews.wordpress.com/>